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Reply to Office Action dated 5 April 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A disk administrating system for disks in multiple disk-arrays containing at least one disk array, comprising:

a computer having an interface card;

a plurality of disk drives connected to said interface card; wherein said plurality of disk drives constitute to be at least one disk array, each of said disk drives having an array configuration sector located at said a last of a plurality of sectors thereof;

wherein said computer accesses said disk drives through said interface card and manages said disk array by information stored in said array configuration sector, said array configuration sector having a field identifying said disk drive as being part of a particular array, a disk array firmware identification field, an array information field, a disk information field, a first serial checksum and a second serial checksum, said first serial checksum being based on a model number, a serial number and a disk drive firmware revision number encoded in said disk information field, said second serial checksum being based on said fields of said array configuration sector, said computer identifying disk data directly

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from said first serial checksum.

Claims 2 - 4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Currently amended) The disk administrating system as in claim [[4]] 1, wherein said array information field comprises bits defining at least an array type field, a disk number field, a stripe size field and an available capacity field.

Claim 6 (Currently amended) The disk administrating system as in claim 5, wherein said array information field further comprises an array broken flag to check said integrity of said array.

Claim 7 (Currently amended) The disk administrating system as in claim 5, wherein said array information field further comprises bits defining an array serial number field to identify arrays of different types.

Claims 8 - 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Currently amended) The disk administrating system as in claim 8, wherein said disk information field includes comprises at least a bootable field.

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Claim 11 (Currently amended) The disk administrating system as in claim 8, wherein said disk information field includes ~~comprises~~ at least a sequence/function field.

Claim 12 (Currently amended) The disk administrating system as in claim 8, wherein said disk information field includes ~~comprises~~ at least an enhanced field.

Claims 13 - 17 (Cancelled).